

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 04090 021520Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 DHA-02 VO-03
SCA-01 CU-02 H-01 L-03 PRS-01 EURE-00 /056 W
-----021647Z 037759 /43

P 021412Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3617
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 04090

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CVIS, CSCE, RO
SUBJECT: MFN RENEWAL

REF: STATE 122381 NOTAL

1. SUMMARY: AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL AMBASSADOR CALLED ON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PATAN AND FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU TO DISCUSS MFN RENEWAL. PATAN REVEALED HE HAD EXEMPTED MANUFACTURER'S HANOVER TRUST FROM DECREE 81 AND PROMISED REVIEW PAN AM'S STATUS IN LIGHT OF AMBASSADOR'S CONTENTION THAT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS SUPERCEDED DECREE. MACOVESCU REITERATED ASSURANCES ROMANIANS INTENDED TO LIVE UP TO ITS COMMITMENTS. HE GAVE US NEW PASSPORT APPROVAL FIGURE FOR ISRAEL (622) WHICH IS SUBSTANTIALLY ABOVE ANYTHING WE HAVE HEARD FROM ISRAELIS. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR SAW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PATAN MAY 31 IN CONJUNCTION WITH MFN RENEWAL. IN ADDITION TO POINTS LISTED REFTEL, AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT DECREE 81(WHICH PUTS ROMANIAN FOREIGN BUSINESSES UNDER ARGUS SYSTEM (BUCHAREST 3161 AND 3686) RAISES ISSUE OF WHETHER GOR IS OBSERVING SPIRIT OF US-GOR TRADE AGREEMENT AS WELL LETTER OF SPECIFIC BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. PATAN INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT HE HAD ALREADY GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT MANUFACTURERS HANOVER BRANCH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUCAR 04090 021520Z

BE EXEMPTED. ITS STATUS REMAINS COVERED BY THE SPECIAL DECREE ISSUED AT THE TIME OF THE BRANCH'S ESTABLISHMENT. PATAN CLAIMED THAT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE HAD OVERLOOKED THE BANK'S SPECIAL STATUS IN APPLYING DECREE 81. HE ALSO PROMISED ON THE BASIS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION TO REVIEW THE SITUATION REGARDING PAN AMERICAN. HE AGREED THAT IF PAN AM WERE COVERED BY BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AS THE AMBASSADOR CONTENTED,

THEN IT ALSO SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO DECREE 81.

3. WITH REGARD TO EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL PATAN SAID HE HAD RECENTLY SEEN LATEST CENSUS FIGURES (FROM JANUARY 1977 WHICH WOULD BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY. THEY INDICATED THAT THE JEWISH POPULATION WAS NOW DOWN TO 27,000, A LOWER FIGURE THAN HE HAD EXPECTED. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE EXPECTED THIS FIGURE WOULD BE GREETED WITH SOME SKEPTICISM BOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL AND HE, HIMSELF, WONDERED ABOUT IT IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS BY THE CHIEF RABBI (RABBI ROSEN HAS CONTENDED IN THE PAST THAT HE HAS AN ACCURATE COUNT OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN THE PROVINCES WHICH NUMBER ABOUT 20,000, BUT HAS SAID HE HAS NO ACCURATE RECORD OF THOSE LIVING IN BUCHAREST, ALTHOUGH HE ESTIMATES THE NUMBER TO BE ABOUT EQUAL). PATAN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME WHO PREFERRED NOT TO LIST THEMSELVES FOR CENSUS PURPOSES AS JEWS.

4. DURING JUNE 1 REVIEW WITH MACOVESCU OF PROCEEDURES REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL OF MFN AMBASSADOR STRESSED OUR CONCERN ROMANIA FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION TO CONGRESS FOR CONTINUATION OF WAIVER IMPLIED THAT WE EXPECTED EMIGRATION TO U.S. AND TO ISRAEL TO REMAIN AT SATISFACTORY LEVELS. AT PRESENT TIME AMBASSADOR SAID HE THOUGHT SITUATION ONLY "MORE OR LESS SATISFACTORY." WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE FASTER ACTION ON LATEST REP LIST (HE NOTED PARENTHETICALLY THAT DURING MEETING WITH DEP MIN PACOSTE LAST WEEK PACOSTE HAD AGREED PERSONALLY TO REVIEW STATUS), AND WE REMAINED DISSATISFIED WITH SLOW RATE OF APPROVAL OF MARRIAGES. EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL WAS DOWN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUCAR 04090 021520Z

FROM LAST YEAR AND THIS WAS OF CONCERN TO THE ADMINISTRATION, THE CONGRESS AND THE U.S. JEWISH COMMUNITY. EVIDENCE OF THIS CONCERN WAS MAY 16 LETTER TO PRESIDENT SIGNED BY 55 CONGRESSMEN, SOME OF WHOM HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN STRONG SUPPORTERS OF MFN TO ROMANIA.

5. AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED PRESENTATION BY NOTING PROBABILITY OF OTHER ISSUES BEING RAISED DURING HEARING SUCH AS TREATMENT OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY. RECNET REPORT SUBMITTED TO VARIOUS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS BY "COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ROMANIA" THAT REBUTS STUDY DONE LAST YEAR BY EMBASSY ON ROMANIAN MAGYARS WAS EXAMPLE OF TYPE OF ACTIVITY WE COULD EXPECT TO SURFACE DURING PERIOD OF CONGRESSIONAL MFN REVIEW. IN THIS CONNECTION AMBASSADOR SOLICITED MINISTER'S FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE IN EMBASSY REVIEW AND UPDATE OF EMBASSY BUCHAREST STUDY SENT TO DEPT. IN APRIL 1976.

6. MACOVESCU RESPONDED IN RELAXED FASHION, IN PROCESS REVEALING THAT HE WELL AWARE OF BOTH MAY 16 CONGRESSIONAL

LETTER AND REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR HR IN ROMANIA. ON EMIGRATION QUESTION HE OFFERED FOLLOWING STATISTICS AS EVIDENCE ROMANIA HAD EVERY INTENTION HONORING ITS COMMITMENT.

APPROVALS TO ISRAEL FOR PERIOD

JAN 1 1977-MAY 21	622
-------------------	-----

REJECTIONS	69
------------	----

ACTUAL DEPARTURES	435
-------------------	-----

APPROVALS TO US FOR PERIOD

JAN 1, 1977-MAY 21	728
--------------------	-----

REJECTIONS	167
------------	-----

ACTUAL DEPARTURES	599
-------------------	-----

MARRIAGE APPROVALS JAN 1 TO DATE	30
----------------------------------	----

(MINISTER CONTRASTED THIS FIGURE WITH APPROVAL OF ONLY 20 CASES IN 1976. EMBASSY FIGURES SHOW 47 APROVALS IN 1976) MOCOVESCU SAID HE TRUSTED NO ONE IN ADMINISTRATION OR CONGRESS WAS UNDER ANY ILLUSIONS AS TO POLITICAL IMPORTANCE GOR ATTACHED TO MFN. THIS FAR OUTWEIGHED ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE. THAT SAID, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BUCAR 04090 021520Z

ROMANIA WOULD NOT WISH TO CONTINUE MFN AGREEMENT IF IT APPEARED TO OFFER ONE SIDE UNDUE ADVANTAGE OR IF IT DID NOT MEET MUTUAL INTEREST OF TWO COUNTRIES. SPIRIT OF FULL RECIPROCITY CONTINUED TO BE KEYSTONE OF ROMANIAN FOREIGN POLICY. FOR ITS PART ROMANIA INTENDED TO KEEP ITS SHARE OF THE MFN BARGAIN. THERE WOULD BE "NO ROCKING OF THE BOAT OR AGITATING OF THE SITUATION." AT THE SAME TIME HE TRUSTED THAT THE U.S. WOULD ENSURE THAT PROBLEMS REMAINED IN PERSPECTIVE AND THAT WE WOULD NOT BE UNDULY INFLUENCED BY GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS OPERATING ON BASIS OF NARROW OR PAROCHIAL INTERESTS. VIETS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUCHAR04090
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770196-1023
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770699/aaaadivw.tel
Line Count: 151
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 821ac486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 122381
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2310168
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFN RENEWAL
TAGS: CVIS, RO, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/821ac486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009